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HOUSE RESOLUTION 280
By Pruitt

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Reverend Marilyn J. Ramsey for her diligent service to the people of Nashville and the congregation of Greater Bethel AME Church, as they pay tribute to this extraordinary citizen on May 25, 2002, "Reverend Marilyn J. Ramsey Day".

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause in its deliberations to recognize those venerable individuals who, through their great capacity for love, dedication of spirit, and faith in God, strive to enhance the lives of the people in their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Marilyn J. Ramsey is one such estimable citizen who radiates God's love and evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly wishes to join with the congregation of Greater Bethel AME Church and all Nashvillians in paying tribute to Reverend Marilyn J. Ramsey on the occasion of the Appreciation Service and Reception to be held in her honor on May 25, 2002; and

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WHEREAS, since accepting her calling, Reverend Ramsey has enriched the lives of the people in her congregation and her community through her inspirational example, her commitment of spirit, and her unwavering faith in God; and

WHEREAS, a citizen of Nashville, Reverend Ramsey has diligently worked to improve the quality of life for the people of Davidson County; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Ramsey is a woman with extraordinary leadership abilities, who began her community involvement during the 1960s in the midst of the Civil Rights struggle; and

WHEREAS, working closely with renowned Civil Rights activists, including the late Reverend Kelly Miller Smith, Attorney Avon Williams, Dr. Edwin Mitchell, and Mrs. C. E. McGruder, Reverend Ramsey participated in numerous marches and protests against injustice; and

WHEREAS, Marilyn J. Ramsey also participated in the historic "March on Washington," which remains one of her greatest accomplishments during this tumultuous period; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Ramsey has also served in various positions in numerous civic organizations, including as a member of the Davidson County Independent Political Council, as a Board Member of the NAACP, as a member of the PTA and as a member of the Board of Directors for the Edgehill Community Center; and

WHEREAS, nearly twenty years ago, Marilyn J. Ramsey received her calling to become an ambassador for the Lord and currently serves as an Ordained Local Elder at the Greater Bethel AME Church; and

WHEREAS, through her ministry, Reverend Ramsey preaches the Gospel throughout Nashville and ministers to the sick, shut-ins, prisoners, and the homeless; and

WHEREAS, in the course of her ministry, she has offered tremendous wisdom, guidance, and support to many young women clergy; and

WHEREAS, she also serves her congregation and community through her exemplary efforts as a member of the Greater Bethel Ministerial Staff and as a member of the Interdenominational Ministers' Alliance; and

WHEREAS, an unwavering commitment to the work of her Creator and Savior, the betterment of the lives of her congregation, and the welfare of all of humanity is a hallmark of the life and career of Reverend Ramsey; and

WHEREAS, throughout her life, Reverend Ramsey has proven to be an excellent steward of the physical and spiritual gifts bestowed upon her by God, as she utilizes these talents to meet the physical and spiritual needs of others; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Ramsey's outstanding career as a Pastor and an active civic leader is directly attributable to her reliance on God, her dedication to the time-honored values of hard work and common sense, and her uncommon ability to relate to people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Marilyn J. Ramsey is truly one of the great religious leaders and catalysts for positive spiritual change in our State and Nation, and she should be appropriately honored for her exemplary service to God, her fellow Christians, and to the good people of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we honor and recognize Reverend Marilyn J. Ramsey for her diligent service to the people of Tennessee as a servant of God and join with the good people of Nashville and the congregation of Greater Bethel AME Church as they pay tribute to this extraordinary citizen with an Appreciation and Service Reception to be held on "Reverend Marilyn J. Ramsey Day" on May 25, 2002.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we wish her much success in the future endeavors of her ministry.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.